



# AirSport News

## Welcome

Welcome to our first edition of Airsport News. We are still producing our quarterly magazine with it's great articles and updates. Airsport News will be a more topic specific newsletter. If you are a past Member, have a look and see what has changed. If you are not a Member, read on! To our existing Members, we thank you for your ongoing support.

## Let's Start at the Beginning!

### ARE YOU AWARE?

As a builder, owner and pilot of your experimental aircraft, you are where you are with your **experimental** aircraft because of the privileges and advocacy of the SAAA. We are continuously working on your behalf.

## About the SAAA

For the past 66 years, the Sport Aircraft Association of Australia (SAAA), has and continues to be a group of aviation enthusiasts, assisting each other to build, maintain and operate sport aircraft. We educate our Members to continuously improve safety outcomes. The SAAA has changed in recent years. The organisation has gone from a club to a properly run national business that is respected by the Regulator for its consistency and focus. The current National Council are working hard to rebuild the foundations to professionalise and modernise SAAA. Here are some highlights from the last five years:

- Developed a modern website with a continuous growth of information from Chapter details, technical and administrative support along with technical and corporate reference centres
- Developed and streamlined a new Chapter Charter - reducing the administrative burden on Chapter leaders
- Put in place a Chapter Funding Scheme to support all SAAA Chapters
- Established our Flight Operations Support to members with a team of formally appointed FSA's and our own Flight Instructors to deliver Type Transition Training – all managed under our CASA approved Flight Training and Safety Manual (FTSM)
- Commenced work to build Flight Reviews into FTSM
- Established our Safety Management System which includes our own Occurrence Management System
- Continue to advocate on behalf of our Members
- Engagement in the relevant Senate RRAT Committee hearings
- Submissions to Senate Committees, CASA and Air Services
- Development of a Maintenance Techniques Course (MTC) which has been encouraged by CASA
- Investing in the future through the engagement of young Australians with our SAAA Youth Build & Fly Program

We are building a stronger SAAA that is sustainable, is supported by an established technical and administrative team, and is less reliant on volunteers to manage the business. All SAAA Board Members and technical staff / advisors are experienced aviators in their own right; most are volunteers collectively contributing over 5000 hours/year to SAAA. We consider ourselves very fortunate to have such a capable and committed team supporting SAAA and its Members.



## Special points of interest

- About the SAAA
- Benefits of Membership
- Insurance
- Youth Build Program
- Maintenance Techniques Course
- Our Final Word

## Contact Us

Visit our website:  
[www.saaa.com](http://www.saaa.com)

If you would like to talk to us - just call 02 6889 7777 and our friendly Membership Services Team will put you in touch with the people you need to speak with to explore the opportunities of being a part of our great organisation.

## Benefits of SAAA Membership

- SAAA Chapter network
- Events - Yes we do events!  
Ausfly - All Aviators under One Sky.  
Fly-ins - local and interstate, Avalon, and State-wide Air shows
- Build Support - TC support – no service fee
- Special Certificates of Airworthiness (SCoAs) issuance - SAAA's own Authorised Persons, delegated by CASA to issue SCoAs
- Aircraft registration - \$195 (one off cost for VH-Mark and aircraft registration; no recurrent costs; CASA managed)
- Aircraft maintenance - We currently have our MPC course available to our members.
- Pilot Licencing - All managed by CASA – all the opportunity a pilot aspires to grasp; from RPL, VFR to IFR and commercial
- Flight Ops Support - SAAA has a network of Flight Safety Advisors (FSAs) - they offer support around all matters flight ops.
- Flight Training - SAAA has its own CASA approved Type Transition Training program (instructors hold FIRs IAW Pt 61)
- Community Forums
- Other benefits of Membership - SAAA offers many other value propositions to its Members – from discounted fuel schemes, to attractive freight deals and competitive forex services – and much more.

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## Insurance

**We have been receiving a lot of feedback around Insurance. It is always a topic of conversation.**

SAAA has negotiated with QBE that SAAA Members who have signed up to our various safety initiatives can save on the insurance of your plane, in most instances more than the SAAA annual membership fee.

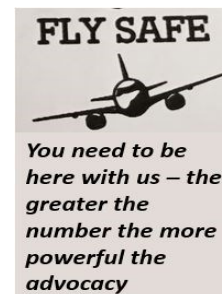
**For avoidance of doubt - SAAA acts as a referrer for the SAAA-QBE product; SAAA is not a broker or underwriter of this offer.**

- SAAA has developed a large number of programs for its Members that are aimed at improved safety outcomes in build and flight.
- SAAA has worked with QBE over many years by providing working copies of our documentation to QBE and advising QBE who has completed courses.

The SAAA is proud of what has been achieved over the last almost 30 years

through its partnership with QBE to improve safety outcomes. As QBE remark "QBE has learned through its 60 years of involvement in aviation that investment in safety is good for everyone – we are interested in saving lives. That's why QBE has for decades invested in many initiatives such as the Matt Hall Airmanship Ambassador Program, supporting Pilot Proficiency Courses and, in amongst all this, we invest in the SAAA safety programs".

Over many years, we (SAAA) believe that some 1800+ of our experimental aviators / aircraft owners past and present, have insured their aircraft under the QBE offer .



## SAAA Sponsored Youth Build & Fly Program

We are proud to have our Youth Build Program. Launched in November 2019, five schools around Australia are taking part in our first project to build a Vans RV12.

Schools are located in Queensland, Victoria, New South Wales and Western Australia. Our Members have had the opportunity to give back and have inspired our youth to become involved in aviation. We have a number of chapter Members who have volunteered their time to mentor the students. Everyone has really enjoyed being involved and giving something back, and a great reason to continue building an aircraft!

This is not the first time SAAA has built aircraft. Back in 1994 a Kitfox was built and raffled. The profits went towards renovations and new office equipment at HQ in Victoria. A Jabiru was constructed in 1997 and the profits went towards replacing the roof at HQ.

If your local school or chapter are interested in taking part, please refer to our website [www.saaa.com/saaa-sponsored-youth-aircraft-build-and-fly-program](http://www.saaa.com/saaa-sponsored-youth-aircraft-build-and-fly-program)

## Maintenance Techniques Course

SAAA has been working towards developing a Maintenance Techniques Course that will, with CASA approval, qualify all owners to conduct maintenance. The course has been beta tested by a number of SAAA Members which included TC's, MPC trainers and LAME's. The feedback has been that it is a great course. We are now waiting for CASA to expedite their approval of the course, in order that we can start delivering it to our Members.

## Final Word

The Number one priority for the SAAA is to continue to develop and maintain the conditions and support to keep our Members and the general public safe. We continue to listen to our Members, learn, advocate and enhance our systems for all Members.